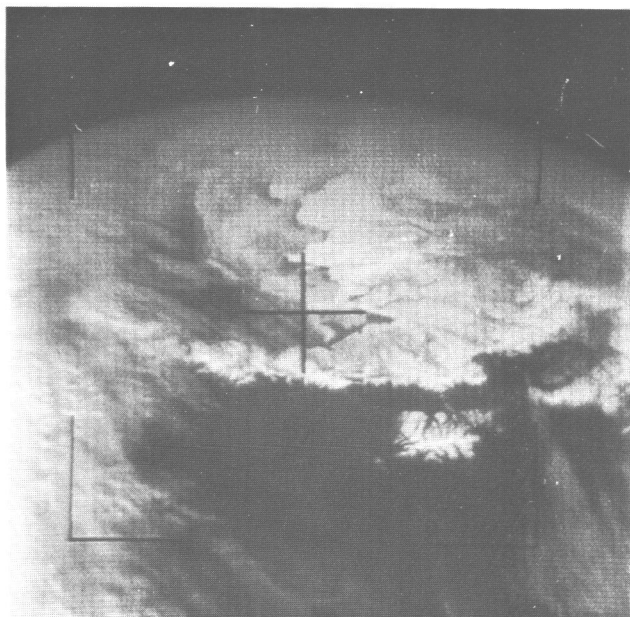
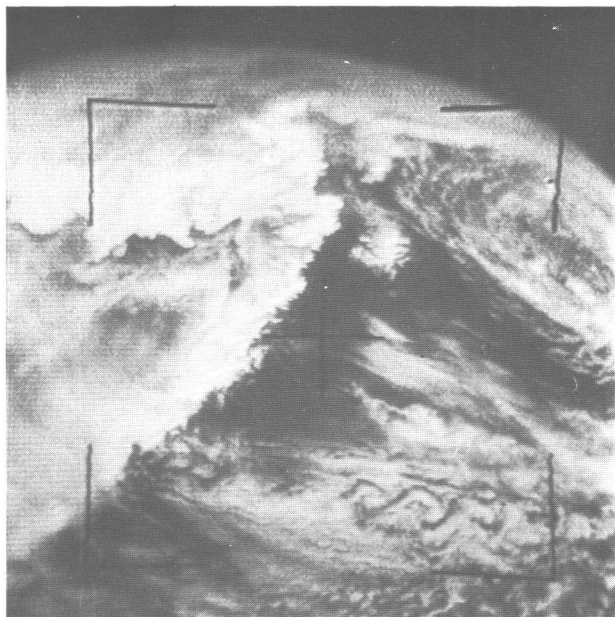


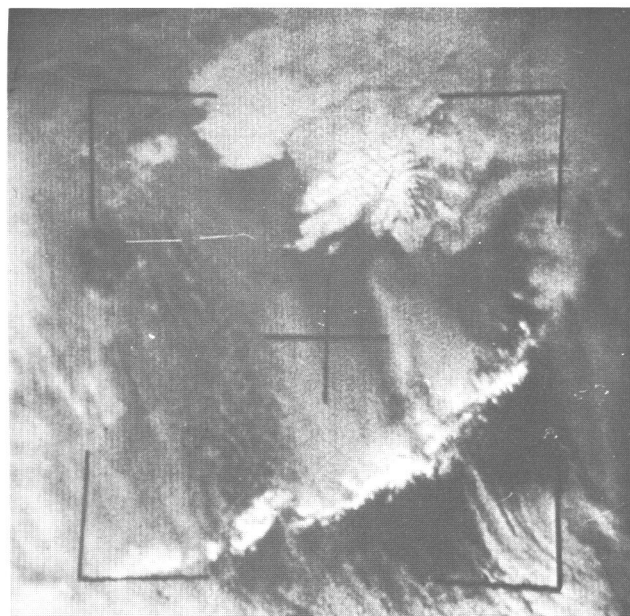
PICTURE OF THE MONTH



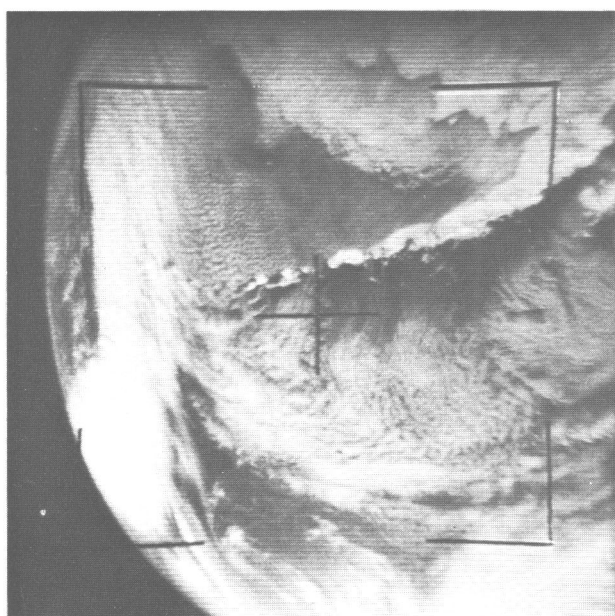
(a) TIROS VIII, Pass 1195-direct. Camera 1, frame 2, 2120 GMT, March 12, 1964.



(b) TIROS VII, Pass 4236/4236. Camera 2, frame 2, 2303 GMT, March 31, 1964.



(c) TIROS VII, Pass 7680/7680. Camera 2, frame 1, 2200 GMT, November 19, 1964.



(d) TIROS IX, Pass 310/309. Camera 2, frame 1, 2324 GMT, February 16, 1965.

These photographs show southwestern Alaska and the eastern Aleutians on four widely separated days under relatively clear conditions. However, no large area of completely cloud-free skies exists within any of the photographs, except for the region around Kodiak Island and southwestern Alaska in (a) and the region around Nunivak Island and western Alaska in (d) (near top).

The snow-covered land mass of southwestern Alaska is remarkably well defined in all four pictures. In (a) and (d) a large area of Bering Sea ice also is visible. Surface air temperatures were particularly low at the time of photograph (d), near 0° F. at St. Paul's Island (57° N, 170° W., near the edge of the ice pack) and far below zero in interior Alaska.

Low clouds banked heavily against the northern slopes of the eastern Aleutians and the Alaska Peninsula in (b) and (c), and to a lesser extent in (d), under the influence of moderate N or NW flows. Lee clearing is pronounced. The remarkable chain of downstream eddies visible in (b) appears to emanate from the vicinity of mountainous Unimak Island.

Cloud-free TIROS photographs of southwestern Alaska and the Aleutians are relatively uncommon because of excessive cloudiness in summer and darkness in winter. Photograph (c) was taken in late November when even at midday the solar elevation is quite low.